

**WASHINGTON, D.C. - Rep. Brad Miller (NC-13)** voted today for the first step to reversing record budget deficits that are passing trillions of dollars in debt to the next generation. The "pay as you go" rule or "PAYGO" was the law of the land from 1990 to 2002, paving the way for a balanced budget in the late 1990's. It simply means no government spending or tax cuts can result in increased deficit spending.

"Most American families have to balance their budgets and make ends meet, the same should be true for government," said **Miller**. "The Bush Administration has turned a projected 10-year \$5.6 billion surplus into a nearly \$3 trillion deficit and that must be reversed."

**Rep. Miller** also voted yes on a new rule requiring House lawmakers to attach their names to any home state projects they obtain in spending bills. The measure is an effort to help prevent scandals in which members of Congress trade such "earmarks" for bribes, campaign cash or other favors.

- The Democratic reform package will amend House rules to clearly define what constitutes an earmark, along with its proper use. Specifically, the package will prohibit earmarks that personally benefit Members and their spouses.
- Earmark reform under Democrats will ban earmarks that benefit lobbyists who chair a Member's Political Action Committee.

Today's House vote passed by a 280 to 152 margin.